Message Text

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12

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-12 ADP-00 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

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FM AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1883

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

CONFIDENTIAL LOURENCO MARQUES 0244

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E. O. 11652: GDS TAGS: PINS MZ

SUBJ: DEATH OF PASTOR MANGANHELA AND RELEASE OF DETAINED

PRESBYTERIANS

REF: A) LOURENCO MARQUES 242, APR 12; B) LOURENCO MARQUES 91, FEB 7; C) LOURENCO MARQUES 01, JAN 2

1. DAY BEFORE PRESS NOTICE REPORTED REF A APPEARED, CONGEN WAS CALLED ON BY PASTOR GEORGES ANDRIE, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY IN THE MISSIONARY DEPT OF THE PROTESTANT CHURCHES OF SWITZERLAND. PASTOR ANDRIE SAID HE AND SWISS MISSION COLLEAGUES HAD APPOINTMENT WITH GOVERNOR GENERAL PIMENTEL DOS SANTOS TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION AT RELEASE OF MAJOR PORTION OF PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH MEMBERS WHO HAD BEEN DETAINED LAST JUNE, TO THANK HIM FOR INVESTIGATION MADE INTO MANGANHELA'S DEATH, CONFIDENTIAL

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TO GIVE ASSURANCES THAT NEITHER SWISS MISSION NOR PRESBY-TERIAN CHURCH ARE INVOLVED IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES, AND TO ASK ON BEHALF OF WIDOW WHERE JOSE SIDUMO, WHO DIED IN PRISON LAST JULY, IS BURIED.

- 2. PASTOR ANDRIE TOLD ME THAT 37 OF PRESBYTERIANS UNDER DETENTION HAVE BEEN SET FREE BUT NINE ARE STILL IN PRISON ALONG WITH SIX CONGREGATIONALISTS AND PROBABLY OTHERS. HE SAID THAT AS OF LAST SEPTEMBER DGS HAD ADMITTED TO HIM 428 WERE STILL IN PRISON.
- 3. FROM TALKS WITH RELEASED PRESBYTERIANS, HE LEARNED THAT WHILE ELDERS HAD NOT BEEN MISTREATED, SOME OF YOUNGER CHURCH MEMBERS HAD BEEN BEATEN WHILE IN PRISON, APPARENTLY A MATTER OF BRUTALITY RATHER THAN PURPOSEFUL TORTURE. RUMORS THAT MANGANHELA HAD BEEN TORTURED HAVE NEVER BEEN PROVED AND ANDRIE WAS INCLINED TO DOUBT THEIR VERACITY.
- 4. LIBERATED PRISONERS TOLD ANDRIE THEY WERE OBLIGED BY DGS TO SIGN THEIR NAMES TO LIES PRIOR TO LIBERATION: NAMELY, THAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH HAD COLLECTED MONEY FOR FRELIMO TO BE TRANSMITTED TO FRELIMO THROUGH SWISS MISSIONARY DEPARTMENT. THEY SAID THESE DECLARATION HAD BEEN USED BY DGS TO EXTRACT "CONFESSIONS" FROM OTHER DETAINEES.
- 5. ANDRIE EXPLAINED THAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH AS SUCH HAS NEVER BEEN REGISTERED IN MOZAMBIQUE, BUT SWISS MISSION, WHICH PREDOMINANTLY PRESBYTERIAN ALTHOUGH IT ALSO HANDLES AFFAIRS OF SOME OTHER PROTESTANT DENOMINATIONS, IS REGISTERED. HENCE, WHILE MISSION IS RESPONSIBLE TO MOZAMBIQUE GOVT, PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IS NOT AND THIS GIVES RISE TO DGS CONCERN BECAUSE IT TENDS TO REGARD ANY AUTONOMOUS RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATION AS POTENTIALLY SUBVERSIVE. THIS ATTITUDE WAS ORIGINALLY FOSTERED BY ALLEGED PROTESTANT MISSIONARY ACTIVITIES FOVORING INSURGENTS DURING EARLY ANGOLAN INSURRECTION AND BY FACT THAT MONDLANE WAS PRESBYTERIAN.
- 6. ANDRIE SAID THERE IS WIDESPREAD INTERNATIONAL INTEREST IN FATE OF DETAINEES, INCLUDING SPECIFIC CONCERN ON PART OF INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION OF JURISTS, COMMISSION FOR RIGHTS OF MAN, ALLIANCE REFORME MONDIAL, AND AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL, AND THAT CATHOLIC CARDINALS IN HOLLAND AND FRANCE HAVE SENT MESSAGE TO CONFIDENTIAL.

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VATICAN REQUESTING ITS INTERVENTION. VAN OSS

CONFIDENTIAL

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Message Attributes

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Subject: DEATH OF PASTOR MANGANHELA AND RELEASE OF DETAINED PRESBYTERIANS

TAGS: PINS MZ

To: STATE INFO BLANTYRE

CAPE TOWN DAR ES SALAAM

LISBON **LUANDA** LUSAKA **PRETORIA** LOURENCO MARQUES 01, JAN 2

GENEVA
MBABANE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005